



Charles Starbuck "Chaz" Crawford

April 19, 1986 - March 5, 2026

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Charles Starbuck "Chaz" Crawford, who left us far too soon on March 5, 2026, at the age of 39. Born on April 19, 1986, in Alexandria, Virginia, Chaz was a bright light in the lives of his family and friends, known for his adventurous spirit and his dedication to nature and wildlife.

Chaz graduated from West Potomac High School in 2004, then pursued his passion for wildlife, earning a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology from Virginia Tech University in 2008 and studying Wildlife Conservation at the Penn State University. His love for the natural world led him to a rewarding career in wildlife management across the country in Utah, California, New Mexico, and Colorado, and across the world in Belize, Dominican Republic, and Madagascar. He was drawn to work with predators, including bears, wolves, and fusa. In recent years Chaz thrived at Natural Wildlife Adventures as a sales representative, combining his passion for the great outdoors with his personal magnetism. He relished the chance to connect others with the beauty of the wilderness that he cherished so deeply.

Beyond his professional life, Chaz was devoted to his family, cherishing every moment spent with his mother, Deborah Crawford, and his sisters, Melissa and Kimberly. He made lasting memories on adventures with his nephew, Emmet, and his uncle Ed. He had a faithful companion on his many

adventures in his dog Gusto, who will be left in the loving care of Chaz's partner, Jess Erceg. His kindness, enthusiasm, and zest for life touched everyone who knew him, and his love for adventure was infectious. Whether exploring the great outdoors or sharing stories around the firepit, Chaz inspired others to embrace the wild wonders of life.

Chaz is survived by his beloved mother Deborah, and his two sisters, Melissa and Kimberly, and his partner Jess. They will forever hold dear the precious memories created with Chaz. His spirit will live on in their hearts, reminding us all to appreciate the beauty of nature and the importance of family. He was preceded in death by his father, Calvin Starbuck Crawford.

A celebration of Chaz's life will begin at 3:30 pm on Sunday, April 19, 2026 at Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22308. In lieu of flowers, donations in Chaz' memory can be made to the Yellowstone Wolf Fund which provides immersive educational experiences in the wilderness.

As we remember Charles Starbuck Crawford, let us carry forward his legacy of adventure, love, and appreciation for the wild beauty surrounding us.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

St Johns Crematory

385 State Road 207
Saint Augustine, FL 32084

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

APR **19**. 3:30 PM (ET)

Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church
8531 Riverside Road
Alexandria, VA 22308

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles Starbuck "Chaz" Crawford*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 02 at 01:45 PM

CD

“ *Cat Ramos and Kat Dunford purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Charles Starbuck "Chaz" Crawford.*



Cat Ramos and Kat Dunford - March 12 at 03:10 PM

AC

“ *We just got to meet Chaz at Kim's wedding, and it was instantly clear what a bright, energetic soul he was. We felt so comfortable right away-- he was just fun and easy and lovely, and the four of us are crushed not to have more time with him. He was a beloved brother and son, and we're just so terribly sorry.*

Amanda Cane - March 12 at 02:25 PM

“ Chaz was an incredibly beautiful human being. When you spoke with him, you truly felt heard. His genuine kindness always came through in our time together. I saw him as a man with a huge heart who wasn't afraid to show it.

His love and care for his mom, Deb were constant and deeply compassionate. It was heartwarming to be a small part of their lives and to witness his goodness.

The tender love Jess and Chaz shared was soul stirring. I feel honored to have witnessed it from the beginning.

His memory lives on.

*With love, peace, and possibilities,
Veronica*

PS. Thanks, Chaz, for some of the best Egg Benedict.

veronica isaksen - March 12 at 01:27 PM